



Governor Janice K. Brewer

State of Arizona Department of Homeland Security



Director Gilbert M. Orrantia

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Governor Brewer Declares September Arizona Preparedness Month Joining Nationwide Preparedness Efforts

PHOENIX – Citing the importance of preparedness in Arizona, Governor Janice K.

Brewer has declared September as Arizona Preparedness Month to coincide with the sixth annual National Preparedness Month (NPM). The NPM initiative helps Americans understand what it truly means to be ready for any type of emergency by increasing awareness as well as encouraging individuals, families, businesses and communities to take action and prepare for emergencies.

"I hope all Arizonans will take time through the month of September to learn about the various resources available to them and ways they can prepare for any large or small emergencies," said Governor Brewer. "Disasters can come in many forms, but through proactive cooperation we can be sure that the health and well-being of Arizona communities will be protected in the event of an emergency."

The Arizona Departments of Homeland Security, Health Services and Emergency and Military Affairs have joined to spread the word on community preparedness.

Through this partnership, Governor Brewer hopes to encourage every Arizonan to become better prepared to handle emergencies at work, at school and at home by following these simple steps:

Take Preventative Measures

Flu is a big concern this time of year, so take preventative measures. Follow the tips below and share them with your family.

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
- Avoid close contact with sick people.
- If you are sick, help prevent spreading the virus by staying home until you have been symptom free for 24 hours.

For more information, visit www.azdhs.gov.

Make an emergency supply kit and emergency communications plan

Create an emergency kit that includes enough food, water, and medicine to take care of your family and pets for three days. Plan in advance what you will do to communicate in an emergency by developing a family communications plan. Family emergency plan templates, an emergency supply kit checklist and other resources are also available at www.ready.gov or www.listo.gov. The Ready Web site also has a special section for children and businesses.

Get Informed

Bookmark the Arizona Information Emergency Network (www.AzEIN.gov) as a resource for real-time emergency information that is updated around the clock. If you are a Twitter user, follow AzEIN (www.twitter.com/AzEin) to be notified of Emergency Bulletin System posts, new videos (www.youtube.com/AzEinvideo), recent blogs and more. Emergencies can happen anytime and to anyone – ready or not. **Take action today and be prepared!**

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